

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully solicited.

Claims 1-9, 18 and 19 having been previously canceled and Claims 10-16, 23 and 24 having been withdrawn, Claims 17, 20-22, 25 and 26 are now presented for examination. Claims 17, 20-22, 25 and 26 have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicants regard as their invention, in terms which distinguish over the art of record. Claims 27-34 have been added to assure Applicants of the full measure of protection to which they deem themselves entitled. Claims 17, 22, 25 and 26 are the only independent claims.

Claims 17, 20, 22, 25, and 26 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 4,935,809 (Hayashi, et al.). Claim 21 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Hayashi, et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,729,363 (Aihara, et al.). With regard to the claims as currently amended, these rejections are respectfully traversed.

Independent Claims 17, 22, 25 and 26 as currently amended are directed to an image processing arrangement in which a sensing image is input and a user's indication of an arbitrary position within the input sensing image displayed on a screen is input. An image processing parameter is determined to convert color information of a position within the input sensing image indicated by the user's indication into arbitrary color information. Color information which has an image data format and is used in the determination of the image processing parameter is input. The color information of the indicated position within the input sensing image is converted into the arbitrary color information by performing color processing on the input sensing image using the image processing parameter.

In Applicants' view, Hayashi, et al. discloses a color film analyzing arrangement which displays image data of frames of the film as positive images provided by a TV camera, and a plurality of reference images previously provided and stored in a recording member, in a matrix pattern on an image display device. When one of the color images of the picture frames is specified, the image line of the matrix including the specified image is shifted so that the specified image is adjacent to the reference image line on the image display device and a cursor image is displayed overlapping a portion of the specified image. The cursor image is provided as a reversed image of the part of the specified image where the specified image is overlapped by the cursor image. If the reversed image has a color identical or similar to the portion of the specified image surrounding the cursor image, the cursor image is colored differently. Any images, when specified, may be magnified and displayed at the center of the image display device, and the remaining images may be eliminated.

It is one feature of Claims 17, 22, 25 and 26 that an indicating unit is manipulated by a user to indicate an arbitrary position within an inputted sensing image displayed on a screen. As disclosed with respect to Fig. 5 of Hayashi, et al., screen 33 displays plural picture frames read from plural frames of a film. Hayashi, et al. only teaches specifying one frame of the plural displayed film frames. The Hayashi, et al. disclosure of selecting a frame from plural displayed frames, however, is devoid of any teaching or suggestion of an indicating by a user of an arbitrary position within an inputted sensing image as in Claims 17, 22, 25 and 26.

It is another feature of Claims 17, 22, 25 and 26 that an image processing parameter is determined for converting color information of the user indicated position into arbitrary color information and color information having an image data format is input and used to determine

the image processing parameter. As disclosed at lines 3-24 of column 17 of Hayashi, et al., image data read from a floppy disk 29 is displayed as reference images 200-203 for line D of Fig. 13, for example. The picture frames displayed in lines A, B and C can then be compared with the reference images 200-203 which simulate favorable images. If any one of the displayed images is determined to be unfavorable as a printed image, the image is specified by operating the picture frame specifying keys 40 of the keyboard 34. Accordingly, the image data of reference images 200-203 of Hayashi, et al. are not used to determine an image processing parameter to convert color information of a specified picture frame into color information of the reference images. It is therefore not seen that Hayashi, et al.'s inputting of image data from a floppy disk solely to provide reference images to which picture frames can be compared in any manner teaches or suggests the feature of Claims 17, 22, 25 and 26 of determining an image processing parameter to convert color information of a user indicated position within an input sensing image into arbitrary color information combined with the feature of inputting color information having an image data format for use in determining the image processing parameter.

It is a further feature of Claims 17, 22, 25 and 26 that the color information of the user indicated position within the input sensing image is converted into the arbitrary color information by performing color processing on the input sensing image using the image processing parameter. As disclosed at lines 1-10 of column 8 in Hayashi, et al., a chroma correction circuit 99 corrects differences in spectral sensitivity between a sheet of color paper and the image pickup element of a TV camera 83, adds weight stored in lookup tables memories to image data and further performs negative-to-positive transformation and gradation transformation processing. The chroma correction, weight addition, negative-to-positive transformation and gradation

transformation of Hayashi, et al., however, are directed away from and fail to teach or suggest the conversion feature of Claims 17, 22, 25 and 26 that performs conversion to convert color information of a user indicated position into arbitrary color information. As a result, it is not seen that image processing unit 84 of Hayashi, et al. in any way teaches or suggest the feature of converting the color information of the user indicated position within the input sensing image into the arbitrary color information by performing color processing on the input sensing image using the image processing parameter of Claims 17, 22, 25 and 26. In at least the foregoing respects it is believed that Claims 17, 22, 25 and 26 are completely distinguished from Hayashi, et al. and are allowable.

New Claims 27-34 depend from and recite further features of independent Claims 17, 22, 25 and 26. These further features are believed to be shown in the drawings and disclosed in the specification. No new matter is believed to have been added.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the present invention, as recited in independent claims 17, 22, 25 and 26, is patentably defined over the cited art, whether that art is taken individually or in combination.

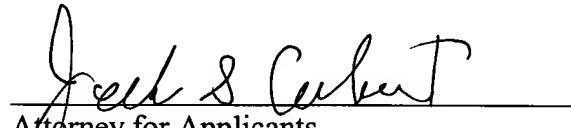
Dependent claims 20, 21 and 37-34 also should be deemed allowable, in their own right, for defining other patentable features of the present invention in addition to those recited in their respective independent claims. Further individual consideration of these dependent claims is requested.

Applicants further submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration, withdrawal of the rejections set forth in the above-noted Office Action and an early Notice of Allowance are requested.

Applicants also request that the Examiner contact his undersigned representative should any matters be deemed outstanding precluding allowance of this application.

Applicants' attorney, Daniel S. Glueck, may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010 All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jack S. Cubert", is written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicants

Jack S. Cubert

Registration No. 24,245

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO

30 Rockefeller Plaza

New York, New York 10112-3800

Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

JSC/emg

DC_MAIN 220028v1